"Not by might, nor by power, but by my spirit . . ."

METHODIST Peace Courier

THE LIBRARY OF
GARRETT BIBLICAL INSTITUTE
EVANSTON, ILLINOIS

Volume II, No. 3 October, 1955

United Nations—New York

DISARMAMENT IS IMPERATIVE

In the past masses of citizens and the majority of governmental officials seemed to view disarmament as "unrealistic." The prevailing view has been that it is not based on facts, is not possible of achievement, places the nation's interests in jeopardy, etc. But consider present developments. Responsible heads of government, scientists, business executives and U.N. and U.S. statesmen, now consider disarmament an absolute necessity. A necessity, that is, if nations, civilization, and perhaps even the human race, are to survive.

Mr. Harold E. Stassen recently was appointed by President Eisenhower as a Special Assistant to the President for study and recommendations on disarmament. Mr. Stassen's office has twice been in direct contact with the Board of World Peace. We have continued to press within and outside the Church the necessity of and the steps for absolute *universal* disarmament. This should include the world-wide abolishment of universal compulsory military training. It will necessitate new forms of valid police service. But "police service" should mean just what it says. Whenever it becomes a threat to international peace it moves out of the category of "policing."

Consider also the procedures with which the study, debate and search for agreement on disarmament is being carried forward by the United Nations. Recall the importance problems of disarmament were given in the Big Four Conference at Geneva. The U.N. Sub-Committee on Disarmament is making progress. News of an increased measure of agreement between the positions of the United States and of Russia may be announced before these lines are read. In Moscow, the Executive Secretary of the Board of World Peace discussed with the Executive Committee of the All-Soviet Union Council on World Peace this problem of disarmament. We discussed realities and analyzed the proposals made by President Eisenhower with regard to observations and inspections. In my judgment, we made progress in this discussion and in achieving a mutual understanding of the content of "co-existence" and a peaceful "modus vivendi," which would require universal disarmament.

Mr. Stassen's address before the American Bar Association in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, on August 23rd, is re-printed in the September 12, 1955, Department of State Bulletin. We anticipate having a quantity of reprints. (A small charge may be necessary.)

On October 7th, at a meeting of the United Nations Sub-Committee on Disarmament, the United States announced the formation of investigation and study along eight lines—the military, scientific, industrial, etc. These investigations will be led and reported on by such men as General Walter Bedell Smith, General James H. Doolittle, Vice-Admiral Oswald S. Colclough for the Military; Benjamin Fairless of the United States Steel Corporation, Walter L. Cisler, President of the Detroit Edison Company, Dr. Ernest O. Lawrence, Physicist, Director of the University of California Radiation Laboratories, Dr. Harold G. Moulton, Economist of the Brookings Institution, and Dr. James B. Fish of Bell Telephone Laboratories represent other fields. The U.N. Disarmament Committee adjourned until after the Geneva Meeting of the Big Four Foreign Ministers.

There are many extremely difficult problems involved in universal disarmament. None is insoluble. In this decade, if man has the will and the intelligence, we can turn over to the world of tomorrow a future devoid of international warfare. Do not *misunderstand.* We do not seek a Utopia, nor even believe a Utopia is the Christian goal. God is creative. The world is dynamic and "change" is a law of the universe. What *man,* with God's help, *can* do, is to create conditions and methods in all the personal, social, economic, political and international areas of man's living, which permit changes to be effected without world war. Unless man *does* so, his civilization and the human race may in fact perish. General MacArthur is quoted in the New York Times of October 8, 1955, as describing himself as "a confirmed optimist" regarding the possibility of another world war. "He thinks," he is reported by Mayor Lauro of Naples as having said, "another war would be double suicide and that there is enough sense on both sides of the Iron Curtain to avoid it."

Charles F. Boss, Jr.

Methodist Peace Courier

Published by the
BOARD OF WORLD PEACE
of The Methodist Church
740 Rush Street, Chicago 11, Ill.

Subscription rates: $1.00 for 10 issues . . . 60 cents per subscription when ordered in bundles of five or more to one address.

Officers of the Board

Rev. Ralph W. Sockman, *president*
Rev. Edmund Heinsohn, *vice-president*
Rev. George W. Carter, *recording secy.*
Rev. Irvin S. Motz, *treasurer*

Staff

Rev. Charles F. Boss, Jr., *executive secy.*
Rev. Carl D. Soule, *field secy.*
Mr. Herman Will, Jr., *administrative secy.*

EISENHOWER-BULGANIN

President Eisenhower proposed as a first step in disarmament that Russia and the U.S. trade military blueprints and permit mutual aerial inspection of military establishments. Premier Bulganin replied with his substitute; "control posts" at large ports, rail junctions, highways, and air fields to guard against sudden attack. President Eisenhower's reply as reported is, "it was all right with us; we would adopt both. And I proposed, I said, let's take them both." Following Dr. Boss' sermon on peace in Leningrad, a Russian woman in the congregation of 2000 persons prayed: "O God! Bless and guide Premier Bulganin and President Eisenhower, so they will lead the world to peace."

PERUSE — MUSE — ACT

Packet on U.N. Charter Review—A selection of pertinent pamphlets containing background material and various viewpoints on an important and timely subject. 50c each.

U.S. Policy in the Near East, South Asia, and Africa—1954—by Harry N. Howard. A State Department booklet on American policy in very critical areas of the world. 30c each.

Ten Years of United Nations Work for Human Rights — A U.N. publication which summarizes clearly world developments in the human rights field. 5c each.

Poster of the Flags of U.N. Members—In color, 14x18. 10c each.

The Record on Disarmament—A State Department booklet which outlines recent disarmament proposals made in the U.N. and describes subsequent negotiations. 1954. 15c each.

Packet on Conscientious Objectors and the Draft — A selection of mimeographed and printed material which provides guidance for conscientious objectors and their pastors in the light of the provisions of the draft law and regulations. Single packets free on request.

A PRAYER

by Dr. Eugene Carson Blake
Chief Permanent Executive, General Assembly, Presbyterian Church in the U.S.A.

Our Father in Heaven, thou God of all the nations upon the face of the earth, whose will is justice and peace, we confess that we have often loved our own way better than justice and are sometimes eager for peace at great costs others must pay. So wars and hatreds and anguish have come to men and nations. Forgive these sins and turn us from all evil ways.

As citizens of this land so richly blessed by Thee, give us courage, poise, and imaginative love sufficient to carry well the burden of leadership our wealth and power have laid upon us. Teach us to use this strength with patience and restraint, knowing that we are accountable not to ourselves alone but to Thee and to all mankind.

We pray Thy blessing upon the United Nations and all the representatives there who seek peace and justice through it. As we use this human instrument, guard us from discouragement that would give up hope and from idolatry that would confuse even our best efforts with Thy perfect will. Keep us from the impatience that would turn us away from international cooperation; give us humility sufficient to learn from others' judgments and such restraint as will draw the nations to us in the common pursuit of peace and freedom.

We acknowledge Thee O God as the sovereign ruler over all men and nations and pray for the establishment of that City which hath foundations whose builder and ruler Thou art. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. *Amen.*

NEW FILMSTRIP POPULAR

The filmstrip, WE SEEK PEACE, produced for the Board of World Peace by the Methodist Radio and Film Commission, has been well received and is being purchased or rented by a large number of churches. The following are typical comments:

Grove Hill, Ala.: "The filmstrip, WE SEEK PEACE, was excellent." Conneaut, Ohio: "It was a very fine filmstrip and had a very timely message." Norfolk, Va.: "It was very well received in our adult study course on Sunday night. It is an excellent production and a timely message."

Why not purchase a copy of this 35 mm. filmstrip for your local church, district, or conference audio-visual library? With 33-1/3 r.p.m. record and script: purchase price $10.00, rental $2.50 from the Methodist Publishing House which serves you.

LOCAL PEACE CONFERENCE

The Peace Committee of the Trinity Methodist Church, Des Moines, Iowa, held a successful Sunday afternoon conference some months ago.

Twenty-one organized groups within the congregation were each asked to send five delegates. Eighty-two persons attended, joining in a covered dish dinner, followed by devotions and a short talk on "A Christian Looks at His World." The group then divided into four discussion sections on the U.N., economic and technical assistance, world trade, and universal disarmament.

A recess followed with time for browsing at a booktable and a display of interesting articles from many countries. Then reports were received from the discussion groups. The motion picture, FATE OF A CHILD, was shown, and the meeting adjourned with a final report by the secretary. Mr. and Mrs. Floyd Moeckly served as chairman and secretary; the pastor, Rev. M. E. Dorr.

ATOMS FOR PEACE

The amazing experience of the International Conference on the Peaceful Use of Atomic Energy at Geneva August 8 to 20th, is being promptly followed-up by present discussions in the United Nations. Constitutional provisions for an international agency for the peaceful use of atomic energy are being debated in the U.N. Many factors support the view that this agency should be a United Nations agency.

President Eisenhower's startling and challenging proposal, first submitted in the United Nations General Assembly December 8, 1953, has progressed with rapidity and developed into world-wide scope and significance. Scarcely a nation exists which has not been stirred into new hope by the amazing possibilities of the future, possible, that is, if atomic energy, which heretofore has tended to threaten the world, can be turned into channels for creating adequate living standards in under-developed areas and be applied to the cure of heretofore baffling diseases.

But, apart from these possible practical outcomes of the application of atomic energy to the domestic and peaceful pursuits of man, was the new experience of a high level international conference represented in the 73 nations and more than 1200 Delegates and Non-Governmental Representatives who for two weeks exchanged scientific knowledge and inventive techniques without stint *and* without international disputes and quarrels. This conference represented, on the high level of technical experience and international cooperation, a pattern of true international service for mankind in the creation of a peaceful world. It could well be a pattern for conferences down through history. C. F. B., Jr.

PEACE MISSION TO EASTERN EUROPE

Only a few weeks ago the Executive Secretary of the Board of World Peace was preaching in Budapest, Hungary. This was part of a peace mission which took him from London, Brussels and Stockholm into Russia. Two sermons in Leningrad, each attended by some 2,000 persons, and two in Moscow, attended by 2300 to 3,000 persons, revealed relaxed tensions in Eastern Europe and a devout response on the part of the Christian Baptists to whom he spoke. In addition to preaching, there were consultations with Metropolitan Nikolai, with the Executive Committee of the All-Soviet Union Council on World Peace, with Intourist leaders and others.

He preached also in Warsaw to a Methodist congregation, held consultations not only with Methodists, but leaders of other Protestant groups, talked with top government officials and conferred with the Polish Government's Council on Religious Affairs. He also conferred at length with the Religious Affairs Committees or Councils in Prague and Budapest, as well as preaching in Methodist Churches in both of these countries and in Yugoslavia.

Dr. Vaclav Vancura and Mrs. Vancura carry on bravely in the Superintendency of the Methodist Church in Czechoslovakia. In Czechoslovakia and other Eastern countries some very promising young men are entering our Methodist ministry.

In Prague he gave a brief story of his visit to Russia to some 400 worshippers in the Congregational Church. In Hungary he was the guest of not only the Methodist Church, over which District Superintendent János Szecsey presides, but also of the Bishops and other leaders of the Reformed Church and of two Bishops of the Lutheran Church in Hungary. He spoke to some 50 Reformed Church leaders and also made an international broadcast over Radio Budapest. In all his sermons and addresses, he spoke exactly as he would interpret the Christian program of peace as we understand it in the United States. The program of the Board of World Peace is based upon an international and world view, not upon nationalistic interests.

In Brussels Dr. Boss was a participant in the Brotherhood Conference (Christians, Jews and other faiths). The well-known Dr. Arthur Compton, President of Washington University, presided over the Conference, and Mr. George B. McKibbin, Methodist layman and member of the general Council on World Service and Finance of The Methodist Church, was Chairman of the Policy Committee.

In Geneva, Dr. Boss was accredited by the United Nations as a Non-Governmental Representative in the Conference on the Peaceful Use of Atomic Energy, with all programs of the Conference open to him.

In Frankfurt, the Third All-European Methodist Leaders World Peace Seminar was conducted by Dr. Boss in the Methodist Preachers Seminary at Frankfurt-au-Main. Bishops Ferdinand Sigg of the Zurich Area and Friedrich Wunderlich of Germany, with District Superintendents, Pastors, and a limited number of lay leaders, composed a group of some 50 persons. We were privileged to have as visitors on our closing day Bishop and Mrs. Angie Smith of the Oklahoma-New Mexico Area, who not only participated, but who spoke to the group.

In Yugoslavia Dr. Boss consulted with several members of the Foreign Office. He aided Reverend George Sebele, District Superintendent of Methodist Churches in Yugoslavia, in getting exit permission on a passport and visas to Austria and West Germany, in order that he might participate in the Methodist Leaders World Peace Seminar.

Contacts were laid for a continuing clearance, and other consultations for making our World Peace work effective across barriers which have existed in Europe. Also voted by the Seminar were requests for more material translated into the languages of the countries represented in the Frankfurt Seminar. A more detailed report of the Mission to Russia will be available in printed form later.

Dr. Boss related that he was deeply moved by the depth of devotion, the singing, the prayers and the friendly response he received in all of the Eastern Socialist Republics, as well as in the West.

METHODIST CONFERS WITH METROPOLITAN NIKOLAI

Dr. Charles F. Boss had an hour's conference in Moscow with Metropolitan Nikolai, administrative head of the Russian Orthodox Church. Metropolitan Nikolai sent "officially" through Dr. Boss messages of interest in, and greetings to, the World and National Councils of Churches in Geneva and in New York respectively. That the Russian Orthodox Church has a deep concern for the secular as well as the religious life of her members, may be discerned in the following quotations in a letter sent by Metropolitan Nikolai to the officers of the World Council of Churches and to others:

"Without renouncing her basic policy of not mixing in politics, the Russian Orthodox Church does not remain unconcerned for the secular life of her members in its manifold aspects and considering them exclusively from the Orthodox position, it guides its faithful people to a Christian understanding of life.

"The problem of the peaceful co-existence of different political and social systems is today, indeed, a question of the utmost importance. This is all the more important in its Christian significance, since the maintenance of peace in the world, which is our task, depends on its positive or negative solution.

"We cannot avoid calling particular attention to the call for the creation of a new atmosphere in the mutual relationships between the different states, an atmosphere in which there would be no place for unfriendly relationships between neighbours." [From Ecumenical Press Service, April 27, 1955.]

C. F. B., Jr.

AN INTERESTING WORD FROM INDIA

12, Boulevard Road
Delhi, India

Dr. Charles F. Boss
Board of World Peace
Chicago, Illinois
Dear Dr. Boss,

I have just received your circular letter of September the 19th, addressed to the members of your Board and to the Bishops of the Methodist Church. It is very encouraging to me to know that you have been permitted to enter, preach, and confer with fellow Christians in Russia, Poland, Czechoslovakia, Hungary and Yugoslavia. The mention of this will be published in the Indian Witness shortly.

We, in India are convinced that the Church should take sides definitely with those who seek reconciliation and an easing of World tensions. We are encouraged by the fact that irresponsible speeches by prominent Americans have been less frequent than they were a year or two ago . . . I hope you are going to publish a further statement about your observations in those Communist-government countries.

With best wishes, I am

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) J. WASKOM PICKETT
(Bishop of The Methodist Church)

U.S. DELEGATES TO THE U.N. 10TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Order of Precedence

Delegates: Henry Cabot Lodge, Jr., U.S. Representative to the United Nations, Beverly, Mass.; Brooks Hays, Congressman, Little Rock, Ark.; Chester E. Merrow, Congressman, Center Ossipee, Carroll County, New Hampshire; John O. Pastore, Senator, Providence, Rhode Island; Colgate Whitehead Darden, Jr., President of the University of Virginia, Charlottesville, Va.

Alternates: Robert Lee Brokenburr, Lawyer, Indianapolis, Ind.; Laird Bell, Lawyer, Winnetka, Ill.; Jacob Blaustein, Banker and petroleum executive, Baltimore, Md.; James J. Wadsworth, Deputy U.S. Representative to the U.N., Geneseo, New York; Mrs. Oswald B. Lord, U.S. Delegate to the Commission on Human Rights of the United Nations, New York, N.Y.

Note: **Do you have a copy of *Register Christian Opinion?* Lists members, party leaders, and standing committees of House of Representatives and Senate. Essential to your action for the advancement of world peace. (Secure from Board of World Peace—10c per copy; 50c per doz.; $3.50 per 100.)**

METHODIST SEMINARS AT UNITED NATIONS

Despite new restrictions on space and other difficulties in providing programs for our Seminars at the United Nations, the Board of World Peace again in 1955-56 is conducting an unprecedented number of such Seminars. No education in United Nations affairs quite comes up to the impact of a seminar conducted within the Conference Rooms, and observations made within the Council Rooms and General Assembly. Seminars now provided include ones from:

(1) South Central States
(2) Syracuse Area
(3) Two Ohio Conferences
(4) North Carolina Conferences — and others in the making.

Shorter term visitations are being provided for some youth and local church groups. After the first of the year youth and student seminars, in which the Board of World Peace cooperates with other Methodist agencies, will be held at the United Nations, conferences also being set up in Washington, D.C.

WHAT ABOUT CHARTER REVIEW?

India has expressed its views through its permanent delegate, the renowned Mr. Krishna Menon. Regarding Charter review, he said, his government felt that the Charter could be revised only if there were unanimity. And if there *were* unanimity, there would be no need to revise the Charter. In any case, this was not the proper time for a review, he held. The trouble was not with the Charter, but with members. His delegation would have no objection to any decision that commanded general agreement, but it opposed the creation of large-scale machinery for Charter review. (UN Press Release)

At this writing we think there is probability that a favorable vote will be taken calling for Charter review, but that the time for holding a Charter Review Conference will await a later decision. In any case, at such time as a Charter revision is voted, and a time set, appropriate guidance will be forthcoming from the Board of World Peace.

LOCAL CHURCHES AID PEACE BY—

(1) Selecting someone as Chairman of World Peace activities who is competent, consecrated, and will give time for significant work for peace.

(2) While organization is not the *most* important item, personnel and activities must contribute to progress in the purposes for which a peace program exists. One of these purposes i to secure some definite reading o study or action on the part of as larg a number of people in the local churc as possible.

(3) Therefore, be sure that lead ers have in their hands copies of *Cru sading For Peace In The Local Church What Can I Do For World Peace, Reg ister Christian Opinion,* and subscrip tions to the *Methodist Peace Courier* These may be considered minimal.

(4) Note the importance of work for peace, finding its way into the vari ous groups of the church: Methodis Laymen, Woman's Society of Christian Service, Adult and University Groups and the MYF Fellowship, regular study, forum and other groups. This need lends itself to the idea of a local committee, so composed as to include representatives from the above named organizations.

(5) Secure the filmstrip *We Seek Peace,* also write to the Board of World Peace in Chicago for the list of films and filmstrips.

(6) Write to the Board to learn of needed materials and to secure available materials.

(7) Keep in touch with your District Secretary of World Peace and the District Committee. If there is none, help secure the appointment of a District Peace Chairman.

(8) The *Methodist Peace Courier* carries editorials and discussions of international policy, reports, important news, suggests forms of legislative action, and otherwise is a resource of information and guidance for individual readers and local church committees.

(9) Any local church committee can secure and buy posters; its members, or the ushers, can distribute to the congregation pamphlets, such as *What Can I Do For World Peace;* it can discuss specific legislation and formulate statements or fill out questionnaires, the results of which can be sent to your representatives in the United States Senate and House; for this you need the pamphlet *Register Christian Opinion* (10c a single copy); the committee may request youth or adult organized groups to put on peace plays or pageants; the committee can co-operate in plans for World Order Sunday, always the Sunday before October 24th which is United Nations Day.

(10) It can cooperate with the community observance of United Nations Day and United Nations Week.

These are but a few of the things which can be done, and a more extensive list can be secured from the Board of World Peace upon request.